W35

THE Word of the Lord TO HIS CHURCH AND Holy Assembly

Regenerated and born again of the righteous Seed, which the Lord hath blessed.

To whom this is sent to be carefully and distinctly read, in the fear of the Lord, when they are met together, in the Light of the Covenant of the most High God.

Blessed, yea for ever blessed are they whose Names are written in the Lambs Book of Life.

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p

238

The Word of the Lord to his Church, &c.

DEar precious Brethren and Sisters, in the ever honourable, peaceable birth of the Seed immortal, which the Lord hath blessed; grace, mercy, and peace be multiplyed amongst you in the aboundings of the enlarged mercies of our Lord Jesus Christ; in whom feel the flowings of the bowels of your brother, whose life with all the relations and enjoyments of this world hath been and is freely given up to serve you. Dear breathing, hungry and thirsty babes of my heavenly Father. Oh the deep of his compassions that opens in my heart to you; Children, Immortal, born again, in which bowels of tender love I exhort you all diligently to watch to the heavenly attendancies of the spirit of life, in the Covenant of Light, in the Lord our Righteousness, that you may all feel his mighty power condemning sin in the flesh, and quicken your spirits, to live and reign through faith in his name, that over the accuser of the Brethren you may stand and never more to be bowed down, as some of you have been in years past, through the mysterious working of the evil attendancies of your minds, in which you will read me in what I write: for you that fear the Lord, & watch to his light, you have a clear discovery in the true sensibility of what is good, and what is evil, and hear you have learned your condemnation; but some that come forth with us after a regulation of their conversations in some outward observations according to the light, for want of watchfulness, are drawn by the mystery of iniquity, and so go from us to rest in what they have done, and delights their hearts in the knowledge more then the life that gives the knowledge, and thus they eat the forbidden fruit, and what ever is pretended in the service of God there is self-endedness in every undertaking, and under the fainedst humility, a self-priding spirit is found, as it is written, I deck thee with my jewels, but thou took my jewels and played the harlot, and decked thy self; and these are they that run and busies themselves to be helpful in the work of the Lord, whom

236 the Lord never ſent; and though they may conceit themſelves they do a great deal of good, and ſay in their own hearts I am wiſe and rich, and ſees, and wants nothing, which in the taſt of the immortal birth, which taſts all things as it really is, they are known to be blind, naked, and miſerable, and want all things, and ſo is manifeſt that God never ſent them; therefore do they not profit the people at all; and if they turn not to the light to wait for God to deſtroy the ſelf-priding ſpirit in the gifted man, that the birth may reign that makes ſelf of no reputation, but they abide where they are to feed of the tree of knowledge, of good and evil, from whence riſes ſtrife and contentions, then ſhall they aſſuredly periſh as the glory of the flower of the field, and be conſumed as the withering graſs, and ſhall be extinguiſhed as the wandering Stars, which fall down to the Earth, whoſe luſter and glory ſhall be ſeen no more; for the Lord will dry up the tongue of the *Egiptian* ſea, and all intruding births that offer up a ſacrifice before the Lord, which burdens the Children of the Royal ſeed: what is before written it ſhall come upon them, the mouth of the Lord hath ſpoken it to my great joy. And all you dear Lambs of the Lord God Almighty, who delights to hear the living voice of the ſpirit of the moſt high God amongſt his people, that ſo you may have the bread of life broken to you for which you hunger, and untill you have it, your ſorrows is known unto the Lord, &c. and to with-hold you from the enjoyment of what you hunger, for great is the wrath of the enemy as before written, as he leads ſome to their own deſtruction in a ſelf-priding ſpirit in outward obſervation, ſo doth he ſeek to deſtroy the innocent babes by his temptations and his ſecret and private accuſations, where he continually ſeeks to add affliction to the afflicted, who live in the deep ſence of their own miſery, notwithſtanding all their obedience with life to death, untill they be ſealed up with the holy ſpirit of promiſe in the free mercies of God in the Covenant of Light in the Lord, there to be eſtabliſhed in the marriage union with Chriſt our Righteouſneſs for ever: And ſeeing you dear Lambs that abhors every evil way in love to the Lord, who manifeſteth his light which reacheth the ſenſitive part, God in his Eternal Wiſdom to hide pride from Man, and that not any ſhould boaſt and ſay ſtand by I am holier then thou, that all may be buried in the ſence of their own miſery, therefore hath he hid

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our life with Christ in God, that all his Children may lie prostrate 237 2
before the throne of his Grace, and free mercy there to wait till he reveal the life to satisfie the soul according to the desire raised up in the light; but oh dear Lambs how doth the accuser rage and takes his advantage when you do not feel the life as sencibly satisfying your thirst, as you are sensible in the Light what you thirst for; oh how doth the accuser bow you down to undervalue what the Lord hath done for you, and cause you to look constantly at your own weakness, and at the temptations you meet with all, and often accuses you that few is like unto you, and that you will never be able to get over those besetments and evil attendancies of your minds; and hear many lies mourning in secret, bearing many heavy burdens through hearkening to the accuser who violently assaults you, and accuses you day and night before the throne of God, and when any sparklings of the glory of the quickening spirit is manifest in you to raise you up to believe in the name of Christ, where your life is hid: Then the Accuser in great fury strikes you down and bids you take heed of presuming, there is no such thing belongs to you as yet, you must see such and such things overcome before you can expect such attainments of the free mercy of the Lord: thus doth the enemy chain you in darkness, and draws you into a self-striving spirit, where many strives to enter the Kingdom, and enters not, for without Faith there is no entrance, neither is it possible to please God; therefore all Children born Immortal, you can understand me in this matter, for unto you this is directed in the simpathizing spirit, where your burdens is mine, and your sorrows is my sorrows, when I behold how the enemy chains you down, and how the red Dragon in the greatness of his rage is ready to devour the tender birth, which hath no life but in the Righteousness of God in Christ, the sence of your exercises, weights and burdens, causes mine eyes to be as a fountain of tears to water the Altar of God, when I approach the throne of his Grace, in the sensibility of all your misery to wrestle with the Lord my God in the strength of the life, which hath delivered my soul out of the thraldom where you are bound, and the Lord is prevailed withal for you, and he hath commanded me in the word of his faithfulness in this day, that his spirit is poured upon me, to preach the Gospel to you that is poor in your spirits, and to entreat and beseech you to judge

238 ſin, and ſelf, and lend not your ears to the accuſer, or to any evil attendancy that would hinder you as little Children to enter the Kingdom, or for looking up in the light to lay hold on the life through faith in the name which is the unlimited power and ſoul ſaving ſanctifying ſpirit of the Lord Jeſus, which will ſupply all your wants, for he is as free to ſave you as he is to convince you, of the need of his Salvation: Oh the Lord perſwade you of the truth of theſe words that I maybe eaſed in the travel of my ſoul for you, who ſtand mourning at a diſtance, and will not come that you may have life: oh be entreated in true watchfulneſs, in the light, to judg all your doubts, thoughts, fearfulneſs, and unbelief, and what ever would hinder you, from laying hold of the ſoul-ſaving Power, of the Lord of Life: Oh let not the locks of the beloved, be any more bedewed with the drops of the night; which is your doubts, and reſiſtances of his love, but all you neceſſitated people, that are born of the Seed, that cannot live without the Light of the Countenance of God; and in the ſecret of your hearts, abhors all ſelf-ſeeking, and ſelf-ſerving, that you may ſerve the Lord in uprightneſs; is the preſſure of your ſpirits; and your dayly breathings unto the Lord: Oh open your eares, and hear the Proclamation, from the Throne of the Glory, of the unlimited love, and mercy of the God of your Salvation; who hath commanded me once more, in the demonſtration and power of his ſpirit, to exhort yee all, in the light of his own Covenant to come away, to the Fountain of life; let not the excuſing Man be hearkned unto, in this day of Gods invitation; but every one in the ſenſe of your neceſſities draw near; and look all to the God of living mercy; for as the Serpent was lift up in the Wilderneſs, ſo is the Son of Man lifted up this day; therefore come away, come away; in the ſimplicity of your ſpirits; and reſign freely to be ordered by him, who ſaith who ever comes unto me, I will in no wiſe caſt off, and he will cure you, of all your maladies; he will cauſe the lame to leap, and you that hath been blind, to ſee his love extending unto you; and he will bind up your broken hearts; and he will comfort the mourners in Sion; and he will lift up the bowed down heads; and he will conſolate the afflicted, and ſet free the Captives; and he will waſh the ſtains off all your Garments; and he will dry up all the Iſhues, that hath putrified, and will cauſe the dumb to ſpeak, and the ſolita-

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ry to ſing the high praiſes of our God; he will be the Husband 239
of the deſolate Widdow; and an entertainer of the ſtranger; in his great diſtreſſes; and a Father he will be, to the immortal birth, that hath no comfort, but in his preſence; therefore I beſeech you, and dearly entreat you, who hath any ſenſibleneſs upon your ſpirits, of the need of the help of the Lord, our God: Oh ſtand not at a diſtance, in unbelief; oh be perſwaded to commit your ſouls and bodies to the orderings of the Lord Jeſus; where your help is laid up for you, and all that truly wait and believe in his Light, and Life, ſhall ſee, the Windowes of Heaven opened; and the Sluces of the River of pleaſure drawn; and the Flood-gates of mercy ſet wide; that every one that's born again, may find more ſtrength, life, ſoul-ſaving power, joy, and peace, in the Light and Covenant of Life, in the Lord Jeſus, then there is ſtrength in the power of Darkneſs, to draw us from him. Therefore dear Brethren and Siſters, be not doubtful, be not doubtful, but believe, over, above, and beyond, all whatever appeares within, or without, that would draw you from your ſtedfaſt ſtanding in the Light, Power, and Life of Jeſus; that ſo through faith, in his name, you may ſay to the Mountaines, be removed, and it ſhall be ſo; yea in this faith, reſiſt the Devil, he will fly away, and you ſhall tread down Sathan, and trample upon all wicked thoughts, and evil attendancies of your mindes, as aſhes under the ſoales of your feet, yea the accuſer of the Brethren, that accuſed you, before the Throne of God, will be caſt down; and you ſhall reign over him, in the Light, and Life of the Lord of Glory; and ſo become the free born Sons and Daughters of the ever living God; members of the Church of the firſt born, who are redeemed from the Earth, and on whom the ends of the World is come, that in newneſs of Life through faith, you may live, which will make an entrance through all that would vaile, into the holy City, new Jeruſalem, where there is no curſe, neither is the Gates ſhut day nor night; for there is no night, as you in the powerful word of faith, reign over your dark thoughts, doubts and accuſings, which did benight you; but now fighting the good fight of faith, the enemy will be kept forth of your habitations, and you will ſee your right to the Tree of Life, which ſtands in the midſt of the Paradiſe of God, there to feed, and grow Pillars in the Temple of the Lord; and

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240 shall go no more forth, but as you have received Christ, so to walk in him, and as you are overcome with the glory of his pure love, and constrained in the overcoming life, to offer up sacrifice of prayer, exhortation or praises in the Assemblies of the People of the Lord, or in your own Families you are to be faithful, for the least mite of the returns of his own spirit is acceptable to him, so every one minister according to the aboundings of the manifold Grace of God, and let not any from this liberty be hasty to utter words before the Lord, least they be found intruders, and have their reward with them as is before written in this Epistle, who are the troublers of the Heritage of God where ever they come, yet notwithstanding what they do; let not the dear Children of the Lord be unfaithful when you are moved in the forcible power of the Word of the Lord, which is as a fire and a hammer that breaks the Rocks in pieces, and layes all in the dust before the Lord within you, be you faithful and keep in the bounds and limits of the pure savoury spirit of Life, that so we may all be as a Family of Prophets, and as Assemblies of living Ministers from the highest stature to the least babe born again Immortal of the seed of God, in whom the spirits of the Prophets is subject to the Prophets, and every Member in the pure life will know their service in the body, the strong leading the weak by the hand, and in all attainments of the gifts of God, denies and girts up self, to serve one another in pure love, which is known in the inward Man, the washing one anothers feet, and here is Christ and his Disciples, and the Lord really known to be one and his name one, which binds up in the Eternal Unity of the Spirit and bond of peace, being all cloathed with the Wedding Garment, sitting at the Table of the Lord, eating his flesh, and drinking his blood; so we being many are one bread in Christ the bread of Life, and he binds us up in the one Garment, his own Righteousness, where there never was rent, nor never will, because our head, who commands and governs the Members of his body, is the Prince of Peace, and therefore Peace he gives unto us, which the World knows not, neither can they take it from us, let every one read that can understand their lot to be in this Inheritance, and there to abide to the end of their days, that an Eternal Crown of Glory may remain with them here, and for ever when time shall be no more: And all you my honourable Brethren and Sisters in the Lord, who travel

241

travel in the ſtrength of his pure peaceable Spirit to gather the ſcattered of the Houſe of Iſrael, the Glorious Preſence of the Almighty God proſper you in your undertakings, who often leaves the ninty and nine that kept their ſtate with God and in the unwearied ſpirit, labours to bring in the ſouls that is driven away, and when they will ſubmit to the Word of the Lord, oh how do you bear their burdens, and brings them again with joy and triumph with the hoſt of Heaven; who rejoyces more over one that was loſt, bnt now found, and brought again, then over the ninty and nine that need no repentance; for you with me knowes aſſuredly they that turn a ſinner from the error of his wayes, ſaves a ſoul from death, and hides a multitude of ſins; therefore ſhall you ſhine as Stars in the Firmament of Heaven, abiding faithful in gathering many ſouls to God Righteouſneſs, in whom feel my life with you in the forcible unity in this ſpirit of our beloved: Oh the Lord encreaſe the number of you, dear precious, ever honourable Brethren and Siſters in whom this pure peaceable ſpirit of our beloved reigns, my ſoul bleſſes the name of the Lord for you that ever you had a being amongſt the Children of Men, for you are the Choſen of the Lord from the leaſt to the higheſt ſtature, for to ſtand ſaviours upon mount Zion this day, wherein the Lord is making up his Jewels whom he hath prepared to endure the trial of this ſuffering day, which ten years ago I was ſent to proclaim in your ears, that all might prepare to meet the Lord when it ſhould ſpeak forth it ſelf as in ſome meaſure it hath done, and now doth, to awake all to walk in newneſs of life, to reign over the ſpirit of this world, and all the pomp and glory thereof, and ſo to dwell in the eſtabliſhed life, there to be hid in the hollow of the hand of the Almighty God, as in a munition of Rocks in this dreadful and terrible day of the Almighty God, wherein all hearts will fail, but whoſe confidence is in the Lord alone, and waits in the Reſurrection of the Royal ſeed to be kept out, over, and above all things that would provoke the eyes of his glory, that ſo in cloſe union every ſoul may be kept in the boſom of the Lord of life, the husband of the bride, the Lambs wife; for whom the eternal, everliving, glorious majeſty, God over all, hath determined to appear as he hath done, ſo will he more and more, for

242 the help of his helpleſs People, whom he hath choſen to truſt in him before the Sons of Men, and hath given victory to overcome, in waſhing their Garments, and making them white in the blood of the Lamb, therefore ſtand they before the throne of God praiſing him day and night in his holy Temple, over all the wrath and cruelty of Men; therefore all Choſen of the Lord look up to the Lord, who will plead our cauſe in the face of all People; for *Michael* the great Prince ſpoken of by *Daniel* the Prophet, will ſtand up and deliver them whoſe Names are written in the Lambs Book of Life: Oh let us truſt in Him, and give up all to Him, for he will aſtoniſh the People as much as ever he did in any Generation, when he ariſes in his dreadful vengeance to plead the cauſe of his own Church, which he will preſerve, and who finiſh in the way their faithful Teſtimony, the Crown of Glory is their reward for ever; but a remnant there is who ſhall ſee the Lord bring to nought all the wicked devices of the enemies of God in this Nation, whom he will pour his vengeance upon, that they ſhall curſe the day that ever they afflicted the Innocent babes of the holy God, whoſe confidence is in the Lord alone; yea, it makes my eyes to be watered with tears in the deep ſence of the great Calamity that will come upon thoſe that ſeek to deſtroy the People of the moſt high God; Oh vengeance, terrible vengeance from the Lord our God will be poured forth, that ſhall cauſe all hearts to fail that withſtand the riſing of his Glory, and they ſhall gnaw their tongues for pain, in the anguiſh of their ſouls, untill they ſet free the Redeemed of the Lord, and give them liberty to ſerve their God in the Land of their Nativity.

And this my God hath commanded me once more to declare unto you dear ſuffering Lambs of my Heavenly Father, for he is mighty to ſave, and will not let any ſufferings come upon us, but he will give us ability to rejoyce through, over, and beyond all that the power of darkneſs can do, for he will cauſe the Earth to ſhake, and the hearts of the People to fail, and all Nations ſhall know he is our God, who will manifeſt his power to the ſight of our enemies, that not any weapon formed againſt us

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ſhall ever proſper, or tongue lifted up, but it ſhall fall in Judgment, which the Lord will perform in his own time, the mouth of the Lord hath ſpoken it. 243

Through your Brother and Companion in the Kingdom of patience and tribulation in the Lord Jeſus, where my life is bound up with you for ever.

Given forth from the Spirit of the Lord in the common Goal in Warwick *the* 27. *day of the fifth* Moneth 1665.

William Dewsbury

THE END